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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/608,955	06/30/2003	Sang J. Choi		7425

7590 05/05/2004
SANG J. CHOI
2425 W. 183RD ST.
HOMEWOOD, IL 60430

EXAMINER

GOINS, DAVETTA WOODS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2632

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/608,955

Applicant(s)

CHOI

Examiner

Davetta W. Goins

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

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Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 1 recites the limitation "said alarm means" in line 2 and should read as "said alarm apparatus".

The limitation "the main switch" in line 3 should read as "a main switch".

The limitation "power switch means" in line 5 should read as "a power switch means".

The limitation "said alarm" in line 5 should read as "said alarm apparatus".

The limitation "the first voltage divider" in line 7 should read as "a first voltage divider".

The limitation "the second voltage divider" in line 8 should read as "a second voltage divider".

The limitation "the power outlets" in line 12 should read as "power outlets".

The limitation "the appropriate" in line 13 should read as "an appropriate".

The limitation "power amplifier" in line 16 should read as "a power amplifier".

The limitation "the sound device; sound device for generating audible sound" in lines 17 and 18 should read as "a sound device for generating an audible sound".

The limitation "the apparatus" in line 20 should read as "the alarm apparatus".

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

3. Claim 16 recites the limitation "the second voltage divider circuit" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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Claim Objections

4. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: The Applicant is suggested to add the language "to be plugged into separate power outlets" in line 4, after the claimed "device switch". Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 1 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 9-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lamont (US Pat. 5,767,771) in view of McMurtry (US Pat. 4,736,195).

In reference to claims 9, 12, 15-17, Lamont discloses the claimed alarm apparatus connected to an electronic/electrical device activated by unplugging power cord connected to the alarm comprising a battery for providing power to the alarm circuit, a power switch means for connecting battery DC voltage to the alarm, power supply means to convert AC voltage to DC voltage, a timer circuit to generate a positive pulse, and alarming circuits, which is met by protector box 106 detecting presence of AC power to the equipment and providing DC power (battery 202) to the alarm circuitry if AC power is removed, disables one or more components of

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the computer if the alarm is set off (col. 4, lines 13-19). A timing circuit relay 207 is triggered after audio alarm 206 is actuated; the timing circuit being adjustable (col. 4, lines 38-57).

Disabling circuit 210 is comprised of an oscillator circuit 211, transformer 212 and voltage multiplier circuit 213. These components enable the disabling circuit to increase the voltage from 9-volt battery to a high output voltage, thus providing sufficient voltage (col. 4, lines 51-57 and col. 5, lines 34-52). The theft deterrent system provided as part of an "add-on" board or "attachment" box 100 for attachment to a computer or other electronic equipment 101 meant to be protected. The equipment including a standard size female and male plug-in connections 104 and 105 (col. 3, lines 40-56). Lamont does not specifically disclose the claimed comparator to compare a comparing voltage to a reference voltage. McMurtry discloses a warning of disconnection of an appliance from a power source including rectifier circuits 56 and 58 producing DC voltages, the voltage levels are then compared at a voltage comparator 62, with the reference arm coupled to the noninverting input and the sensing arm coupled to the inverting input (col. 4, lines 18-35; col. 5, lines 11-35). Since Lamont discloses a device used to detect removal of a power cord including an oscillator and AC to DC converter used to control the voltage, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of using a comparator and inverter, as disclosed by McMurtry, with the system of Lamont, to ensure that the voltage signals are compared to a reference voltage and prevent the alarm from being falsely actuated.

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In reference to claim 10, Lamont discloses the claimed power switch means is locally controlled key switch, which is met by a by-pas key 111 used to temporarily disable the alarm (col. 3, lines 66, 67; col. 4, lines 1-12).

In reference to claims 11, 13, Lamont discloses the claimed power supply converting AC to DC with a charger to charge the battery, which is met by the protector box 106 circuitry provided to detect an AC power relay 201 to enable the use of battery 202 and battery charging circuit 203 (col. 4, lines 21-29).

In reference to claim 14, Lamont discloses the external power source, which is met by the AC outlet (col. 4, lines 21-30).

8. The prior art of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure as follows. Ruffner (US Pat. 4,680,574), Butimer (US Pat. 4,945,341), Rand (US Pat. 6,147,603), and Chapman et al. (US Pat. 6,150,940), which are references that deal with anti-theft devices for power cords or electronic devices.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Davetta W. Goins whose telephone number is 703-306-2761. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri with every other Fri. off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu can be reached on 703-308-6730. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



D.W.G.
April 30, 2004

Davetta W. Goins
Primary Examiner
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